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FISCHER, JUSTIN R				
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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**Continuation of 11:** Applicant's declaration fails to provide a conclusive showing of unexpected results for a rubber composition (in general) having the claimed bond contents and loadings. In particular, the testing described in the declaration appears to simulate a tire tread, while the claims as currently drafted fail to positively require a tire tread. Furthermore, while it is agreed that "processability" is generic to any tire component, the declaration fails to provide a conclusive showing of unexpected results for the entire loadings of the claimed invention. For example, Example 1 and Comparative Example 1 have processability properties that differ by less than 4%. Lastly, it is noted that the claims as currently drafted require a cis 1,4 content of at least 99.0 percent and a 3,4 bond content less than or equal to 0.5 percent- this language appears to define embodiments in which the 1,4 and 3,4 contents are less than 100% and it is unclear if additional bond contents are present.

/Justin R Fischer/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1791